Mr. President : As an officer coming from outside the State I can assure the House that on an average the subordinates in the Government service in the State are not inefficient and I should say that they are well up of the all India average.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I know whether there is any objection in choosing the best men from among those persons who apply without disturbing the communal ratio ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I have answered the question.

Mr. President: The Government propose to consider this question.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With regard to the inefficiency not reported and the normal inefficiency I shall relate one instance. A clerk appointed by the Staff Selection Board for attending to the despatch in an office seeing an endorsement "Copies to so and so for information" sent the cover to the Information Officer. Has such an instance come to the notice of the Government ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I don't know.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has not a local holiday once become a public holiday ?

AMBALLUR TEXTILES

74. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Government have now any shares in the Amballur Textiles;

(*b*) whether Government have any control over the working of the Textiles ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Government have no control over the working of the Textiles except as provided for in the various labour enactments such as, Factories Act, Payment of Wages Act, Workmen's Compensation Act, Labour Disputes Act, etc.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether at the start the Government of Cochin had not taken shares in the Textiles ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Government had taken 1500 preference shares.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What has become of those shares ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* They have been sold.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* At what price. Is it at par ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* These 1500 shares were sold at Rs. 106—14—0 per share making a gain of Rs. 6—14—0 per share.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What will be the value of a share of the Textiles now ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is not a public company. There are no shares.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* When the Textiles were to be started did not the then President of the House say by way of consoling us that the major part of the shares will be taken up by Cochinites ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Cochin subjects took a large number of shares. But they sold them away. We cannot be responsible for that.

OFFICERS OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AS JUDICIAL OFFICERS

75. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will Government be pleased to state how many officers of the Police Department have been appointed as Magistrates and Judicial Officers in the last five years ?

Khan Sahib Y. Muhammad Roshan Sahib Bahadur *(Commissioner of Police):* Six officers of the Police Department have been appointed as Magistrates.

(1) Messrs. A. V. Krishna Ayyar,
(2) A. Krishna Menon
(3) George Parakkal
(4) T. R. Velunny
(5) M. V. Abraham and
(6) P. A. Mohyiddin.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* How many Magistrates are there in Cochin State ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* At present it is 8.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Of these, how many were in the Police Department ?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Some of these people have acted as Prosecuting Inspectors for a few months.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will the Government be pleased to note that there is an apprehension in the minds of the public that it is not very desirable to have officers of the Police Department as Magistrates and judicial officers?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Mr. A. V. Krishna Ayyar was only the Manager of the Police Commissioner's Office. Similarly Mr. A. Krishna Menon was also a clerk in the Police Commissioner's Office and he acted as manager for some time. Then he was promoted as Sub-Magistrate. Messrs. George Parakkal, Velunni, Abraham and Mohyiddin were Prosecuting Inspectors for short periods.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Are the Government aware that there is an apprehension in the minds of the public that it is not to the good of the to have Police Officers appointed as Magistrates? That is my question.

Mr. President: I may point out to the Hon'ble Members that these are not Police Officers in the ordinary sense. I think all except one or two were lawyers and were appointed as Prosecuting Inspectors for short periods. The others were holding appointments in the office.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* In the case of recruitment as Magistrates will the Government be pleased to see that these people are not appointed as Prosecuting Inspectors and then promoted. They could be recruited directly. May I know whether the Government propose to continue this practice of appointing Prosecuting Inspectors as Magistrates.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* That will depend upon circumstances. The difficulty is this: Some times that will be the only chance for promotion for a man who belongs to an unrepresented community. Why do we deny it? I do not believe that this really affects criminal judicial administration any way. It is all sentiment and theory.

Mr. President: I may mention that in Madras Sub-Magistrates are very seldom graduates-in-law. They are officers from the Revenue Department. They may be promoted clerks of Tahsildars' office. Viewed from the legal angle the appointment of a B.A., B.L., as Prosecuting Inspector and then his promotion as a Sub-Magistrate might be considered preferable to the appointment of a subordinate of the Revenue Department.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Are Prosecuting Inspectors promoted as Magistrates in Travancore and British India.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* In Travancore it is again combined with the Revenue Department.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has there been any adverse remarks against these officers?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know, Sir, whether previous to the promotion of Mr. A. V. Krishna Ayyar as Magistrate there was an instance of any Prosecuting Inspectors being appointed as Magistrates?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Mr. Krishna Ayyar was the Manager of the Police Commissioner's Office. I may inform the House that Messrs. Balakrishna Menon and Sreedhara Menon were first appointed as Prosecuting Inspectors and then promoted as Magistrates.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know whether prior to Mr. Balakrishna Menon's appointment there was any instance?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Before that Law Graduates were not appointed as Prosecuting Inspectors. Law Graduates began to be appointed as Prosecuting Inspectors only with Balakrishna Menon. Therefore, this question will not arise.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Having served in the Police Department does not the Government think that they will have a certain kind of inferiority complex. Do the Government feel that? (A voice: There may even be a feeling of superiority complex).

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether the present system which, of course, the Government defends.....

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* There is no system like that.

Mr. President: Then there is another alternative. The Law Graduates need not be appointed as Prosecuting Inspectors. Then there will be no question of their becoming Magistrates.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Sir, there are any number of Law Graduates who want to work in the country. The courts are flooded with them and they have no work. There is no reason why they should not be given an opportunity to serve their country.

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